

PORTSMOUTH SCHOOL BOARD PUBLIC MINUTES FOR JANUARY 10, 2012

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

PORTSMOUTH, NH

DATE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2012

TIME: 7:00PM [or thereafter]

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL - LESLIE STEVENS (CHAIR), TOM MARTIN (VICE CHAIR), CAROL CHELLMAN, PATRICK ELLIS, DEXTER LEGG, MITCH SHULDMAN, ANN WALKER, MARY OLEA, KENT LAPAGE, ED MCDONOUGH (SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE ZADRAVEC (ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT), STEVE BARTLETT (BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR), LINDA BRIOLAT (EMPLOYEE REP), ANN MAYER (SAU 50 REP) AND ELIZABETH BOYNTON (STUDENT REP)

III. INVOCATION

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Chair Stevens led in the pledge of allegiance.

V. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

a. DECEMBER 13, 2011

MOTION: Motion to accept the minutes of December 13, 2011 by Mr. Shuldman

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

b. JANUARY 3, 2012

MOTION: Motion to accept the minutes of January 3, 2012 by Mr. Legg

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT – Ms. Liz Driscoll of 76 Summit Avenue and Ms. Aimee Raymond of 293 Wibird Street both addressed the Board regarding School Choice.

VII. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

a. **FY 2013 BUDGET PROCESS** - Superintendent McDonough shared a PowerPoint highlighting the upcoming budget process and areas of concern the district will be facing in 2013. Board members followed up with comments and concerns.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

a. **ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

i. *BOARD & ADMINISTRATOR, DECEMBER*

ii. **FY 2013 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN REQUESTS** - Mr. McDonough is meeting regularly with the City Manager to better understand the capital improvement request process as a whole. Mr. Bartlett stated that all school district maintenance projects are combined with city improvements whenever possible for greater cost savings.

- iii. *TEACHER QUALITY, WHAT'S WRONG WITH U.S. STRATEGY?* IN ASCD'S EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP, DECEMBER 2011
 - iv. *NEW HAMPSHIRE SCHOOL CHOICE GUIDANCE*, NHDOE TECHNICAL ADVISORY
 - v. FY 13 BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE
 - vi. SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE PREFERENCES
- b. CORRESPONDENCE
- c. DISTRICT REPORTS
- i. FINANCIAL, MR. BARTLETT - Variances in the salary and benefit lines are leveling off. The Board approved delaying a boiler replacement at New Franklin for another year and approved redirection of those funds. Unemployment expense will continue to outpace the budget in spite of a revision. Although spending levels to date may vary from historical patterns, they remain in good shape when compared to total departmental budgets for the year. The focus for the balance of the year will be on managing departmental expenditures in such a way as to cover overages.
 - ii. Mr. McDonough announced that Principal Stokel had been nominated for Principal of the Year. At a ceremony in Meredith, NH, Principal Stokel was named Role Model of the Year and places second for Principal of the Year.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

- a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF POLICIES (2ND READING)
VOLUNTEERS (IJOC)

MOTION: Motion to accept policy Volunteers, (IJOC) by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Legg

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (JRA)

MOTION: Motion to accept policy Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, (JRA) by Ms. Walker

SECOND: Mr. Martin

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

- b. DISCUSSION OF COMMISSIONER'S TECHNICAL ADVISORY ON SCHOOL CHOICE –Commissioner Barry's response to the School Board's letter stated that the New Hampshire Department of Education does not require non-Title I SINI schools to be offered as a choice option. If a district decides to include a non-Title I SINI as a school choice option, the district must determine a reasonable number of students that can transfer to this school. Mr. McDonough will draft an action plan for School Board consideration and approval.

X. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BOARD RULES (1ST READING)**
After a brief discussion, board members requested that the Policy Committee restructure and condense before submitting for final consideration and approval.
- b. **CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF SCHOOL BOARD POLICY ORGANIZATION (BBBHR) (1ST READING)**

MOTION: Motion to accept policy Organization, (BBBHR), first reading, by Mr. Shuldman

SECOND: Ms. Walker

DISCUSSION:

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

XI. COMMITTEE UPDATE

- a. JBC – Mr. Legg reported that the project remains on schedule. The committee’s focus is now on technology and FF&E. Mr. Legg thanked Principal Stokel for identifying all furniture that can be reused in the move to lower overall budget needs.
- b. **ELEMENTARY EDUCATION FACILITIES** – Mr. Martin reported that committee members continue to educate themselves through a number of readings on grade span choices. The committee is in the process of developing a community survey to better understand how people feel about community schools and how Portsmouth, in specific, is delivering education.
- c. **POLICY** – Ms. Walker reported that the district has completed all policies required by law.
- d. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- XII. **ADJOURNMENT** – Motion to adjourn by Mr. Legg and seconded by Mr. Martin at 8:47 p.m.